

REFERENCE TITLE: integrated family court; pilot programs

State of Arizona
Senate
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

SB 1267

Introduced by
Senator Johnson; Representatives Quelland, Yarbrough; Senators Gray,
Harper; Representatives Anderson, Boone, Downing, Groe, Murphy, Rosati

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 25-323.02, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING LAWS 2002,
CHAPTER 332, SECTION 10; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; RELATING TO DISSOLUTION OF
MARRIAGE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 25-323.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 25-323.02. Domestic relations committee: membership: duties:
5 pilot programs: report

6 A. The domestic relations committee is established consisting of the
7 following members:

8 1. Two noncustodial parents who are knowledgeable in domestic
9 relations issues and who are not judges or commissioners. The president of
10 the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each appoint
11 one of these members.

12 2. Two custodial parents who are knowledgeable in domestic relations
13 issues and who are not judges or commissioners. The president of the senate
14 and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each appoint one of
15 these members.

16 3. Two parents who have joint custody, who are knowledgeable in
17 domestic relations issues and who are not judges or commissioners. The
18 president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall
19 each appoint one of these members.

20 4. Two parents who are knowledgeable in domestic relations issues, who
21 are not judges or commissioners and who are appointed by the governor.

22 5. Two active or retired judges or commissioners, or both, from the
23 domestic relations department of the superior court who are appointed by the
24 chief justice of the supreme court. One of these members shall be from an
25 urban county and one member shall be from a rural county.

26 6. One domestic relations attorney who is appointed by the governor.

27 7. One clerk of the superior court who is appointed by the chief
28 justice of the supreme court.

29 8. A professional domestic relations mediator who is appointed by the
30 president of the senate.

31 9. A psychologist **WHO IS** experienced in performing child custody
32 evaluations **AND** who is appointed by the speaker of the house of
33 representatives.

34 10. A domestic relations educator who is experienced in matters
35 relating to parenting or divorce classes and who is appointed by the
36 governor.

37 11. A representative of a statewide domestic violence coalition who is
38 appointed by the president of the senate.

39 12. A representative of a conciliation court who is appointed by the
40 chief justice of the supreme court.

41 13. A marriage and family therapist who is knowledgeable in domestic
42 relations issues and who is appointed by the speaker of the house of
43 representatives.

1 14. A representative from a faith-based organization who is
2 knowledgeable in domestic relations issues and who is appointed by the
3 governor.

4 15. An administrative officer of the supreme court who is appointed by
5 the chief justice of the supreme court.

6 16. A member of a law enforcement agency in this state who is appointed
7 by the speaker of the house of representatives.

8 17. A member of an agency that advocates for children who is appointed
9 by the president of the senate.

10 18. One member of the family law section of the state bar of Arizona
11 who is appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court.

12 19. Four members of the senate, not more than two of whom are members
13 of the same political party. The president of the senate shall appoint these
14 members and shall designate one of them as the cochairperson.

15 20. Four members of the house of representatives, not more than two of
16 whom are members of the same political party. The speaker of the house of
17 representatives shall appoint these members and designate one of them as the
18 cochairperson.

19 B. The committee shall prepare a statewide plan for an integrated
20 family court with comprehensive subject matter jurisdiction over all matters
21 involving the family and submit this plan to the governor, the president of
22 the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives and the chief justice
23 of the supreme court on or before December 31, 2002. BASED ON THIS PLAN OR
24 ON OTHER FORMAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE, BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006,
25 THE SUPREME COURT SHALL IMPLEMENT A TWO YEAR INTEGRATED FAMILY COURT PILOT
26 PROGRAM IN TWO COUNTIES EACH WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED
27 THOUSAND PERSONS. THE SUPREME COURT SHALL SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORTS ON EACH
28 PILOT PROGRAM TO THE COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION FROM
29 THESE REPORTS IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION C OF THIS
30 SECTION.

31 C. The committee shall prepare an annual written report regarding
32 recommended changes to the domestic relations statutes, rules and procedures
33 and other related issues designed to lead to a reform of the state's domestic
34 relations statutes. The committee shall submit this report to the governor,
35 the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives and
36 the chief justice of the supreme court on or before December 31 of each year
37 and shall provide a copy of the report to the secretary of state and the
38 director of the Arizona state library, archives and public records.

39 D. The committee shall develop minimum training standards on domestic
40 violence and child abuse issues for persons conducting an investigation or
41 preparing a report concerning child custodial arrangements pursuant to
42 section 25-406. The committee shall approve the standards on or before
43 December 31, 2004. The committee may modify the standards on or before
44 December 31 of each year.

1 E. Nonlegislative members of the committee are not eligible to receive
2 compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title
3 38, chapter 4, article 2.

4 Sec. 2. Laws 2002, chapter 332, section 10 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 10. Delayed repeal

6 A. ~~Sections~~ SECTION 25-323.01 ~~and 25-323.02~~, Arizona Revised Statutes,
7 ~~as added by this act, are~~ IS repealed from and after December 31, 2007.

8 B. SECTION 25-323.02, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, IS REPEALED FROM AND
9 AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2010.

10 Sec. 3. Appropriation; purpose; exemption

11 A. The sum of \$_____ is appropriated from the _____ fund in
12 fiscal year 2006-2007 to the administrative office of the courts to implement
13 the integrated family court pilot programs prescribed in this act.

14 B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
15 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to
16 lapsing of appropriations.

17 Sec. 4. Emergency

18 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the
19 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by
20 law.